

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01347 270937Z

10

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 DOTE-00

FMC-01 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /109 W

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P R 270916Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2601

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1347

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EWWT, ENRG, KU

SUBJECT: GULF OIL COMPANY CHARTER OF KUWAIT OIL TANKERS COMPANY
VESSEL

REF: A) KUWAIT 1248 B) STATE 65441

1. AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED CALL FROM ABDULAZIZ AL-SAGER, CHAIRMAN KUWAIT OIL TANKERS CO. AND CHAIRMAN KUWAIT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. AL-SAGER STRONGLY URGED AMBASSADOR TO RESOLVE MATTER IN WAY NOT RPT NOT REQUIRING KOTC OFFICIALS TO SIGN ANY WAIVER. HE SAID KOTC HAD NEVER BEEN INFORMED OF REQUIREMENT TO SIGN ANY SUCH WAIVER AND WOULD NOT HAVE AGREED TO DEAL IF IT HAD BEEN AWARE OF THIS REQUIREMENT. HE STATED TANKER WAS PRESENTLY IN ROTTERDAM AND DATE WAS RAPIDLY APPROACHING FOR OWNERSHIP TO BE TRANSFERRED KOTC. HE FURTHER STATED THAT IF WAIVER COULD NOT BE OBTAINED HE WOULD HAVE TO APPROACH CROWN PRINCE/PRIME MINISTER JABER AL-AHMAD FOR GUIDANCE. HE BELIEVED CP/PM WOULD BE ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO ATTACHING ANY SUCH CONDITIONS TO KOTC'S OWNERSHIP OF VESSEL.

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2. ACTION AND COMMENT: AS REF A INDICATES TERMS OF KOTC-GULF

CHARTER AND OTHER EXIGENCIES MAKE IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT SHIP
WILL BE UTILIZED IN CONTRAVENTION OF TERMS CONTAINED IN SHIPPING
ACT OF 1916 AS AMENDED BY THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OF 1950.
THIS ISSUE ARISES AT TIME WHEN GULF ENGAGED IN DIFFICULT AND
DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOK. MOREOVER, IT APPEARS THERE WILL
BE NUMBER MORE CRITICAL QUESTIONS ON WHICH WE WILL HAVE TO TACKLE
GOK IN COMING MONTHS. TOO RIGID STANCE ON THIS MATTER COULD PROVE
TO BE UNNECESSARY IRRITANT. REQUEST CLEAR INDICATION LIKELY
OUTCOME MARAD/GULF NEGOTIATIONS NLT MARCH 29.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, PETROLEUM, LEASES, CARGO SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUWAIT01347
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750106-1240
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750310/aaaaaivo.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KUWAIT 1248, 75 STATE 65441
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GULF OIL COMPANY CHARTER OF KUWAIT OIL TANKERS COMPANY VESSEL
TAGS: PFOR, EWWT, ENRG, KU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006